

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 41413-33277

Title: GRADUATED RESPONSE CAPABILITY IN OPERATIONS-OTHER-THAN-WAR

Operation/Exercise Name: WESTPAC 95-1

Observed: 12 Apr 1995

Originator: S-3

POC: MAJ K.P. O'KEEFE Commercial:

DSN:

5. (U) OBSERVATION:

With restrictive Rules Of Engagement (ROE), and the attendant requirement to limit collateral damage and casualties, the MEU instituted a graduated response to threats utilizing proportionate force.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

During Operation UNITED SHIELD, the Landing Force had graduated response capabilities built around Tactical Psyops Teams, less-than-lethal weapons and agents, and finally the precise application of deadly force (i.e. sniper, precision guided munitions). This allowed the Landing Force to respond to developing threats with proportionate force, thereby avoiding an escalation of hostilities and the resultant increased risk to the MEU.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

Given the nature of many potential missions which a forward deployed MEU (SOC) may be called upon to execute, an inherent graduated response capability is required in the MEU (SOC).

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Prepare deploying MEU (SOC) for the use of PSYOP, and less-than-lethal weapons and agents by including opportunities to train with them during pre-deployment work-up.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

None.

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